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SUBJECT: PORTUGAL ON ZOELICK'S WORLD BANK NOMINATION

REF: STATE 73691

11. (SBU) On June 4, PolOff raised reftel talking points on the nomination of Robert Zoellick to the Presidency of the World Bank with Jose Moreno, Deputy Director of European Affairs and International Relations at the Ministry of Finance. Moreno said there is support within the GOP for Zoellick, whose work in Africa had a particularly positive resonance in Portuguese government circles. Moreno, though, preferred not to offer an official endorsement of Zoellick's candidacy until he had a chance to convey the substance of our demarche to the Minister of Finance.

12. (SBU) Moreno underscored that Portugal normally does not issue public declarations of support for candidates for international organizations and would be unlikely to do so in this case.

Hoffman